Procurement and Processing of Intelligence Information

1. **Procurement of Foreign Publications**

   The IAC dissolved the Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications and assigned its responsibilities to a Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications and a Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Publications. During the reporting period the Procurement Committee:

   a. distributed coordinated evaluations of the publications procurement activities of the field collectors in the USSR and Eastern European satellites in the interest of commenting on the effectiveness of their effort and to express the appreciation of the intelligence community for their work;

   b. coordinated requirements for hard-to-get items so that the agency having best assets procured for the community;

   c. Chairman, and Department of State member visited 30 posts in Europe, the Middle East and Africa to stimulate procurement efforts and explain the Washington coordination program;

   d. sponsored a conference of publications officers, the first in 7 years, to discuss the mutual experiences and problems of field collectors; and

   e. provided advice to the non-governmental procurement activities coordinated by the National Science Foundation.

   During the coming year, a comprehensive survey of the Far East and South Asia will parallel the evaluation made this year in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. To facilitate maximum utilization of the procurement programs, the Committee has invited the National Security Agency, U. S. Information Agency, National Science Foundation, and the Library of Congress to participate in its work. Coordinated guidance to field collectors will be provided on a systematic basis. The Committee will cooperate closely with the Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Publications and the Committee on Documentation to obviate duplication of effort.

2. **Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications**

   A notable increase in the publications released by the USSR continued during the year. Only slight relaxation in the release of Chinese publications was also apparent. However, useful information not available directly from Communist China had been translated into Russian and was acquired through Russian publications. The Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications continued the rigorous review of exploitation facilities and their products, and increased coverage of the new materials was possible through contractual arrangements.

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3. Information Processing

On 21 April 1958, the IAC dissolved its Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Information Processing and replaced it with a permanent Committee on Documentation to promote the integration of information services throughout the community with special emphasis on the compatibility of developed systems. This action reflected growing recognition of the inadequacies of present methods for subject control, storage, and retrieval of information in support of intelligence programs. The permanent Committee and the predecessor ad hoc subcommittee examined many projects for the mechanization of parts of the information processing cycle. They sponsored measures to improve the logistics of research including an IAC agreement to authorize reproduction of most categories of intelligence publications by any IAC library on behalf of any fully accredited IAC staff member. They contributed to the development of policy and of channels for the dissemination of unclassified IAC translations to the government in general as well as to the public.

4. Reference Services of Common Concern

CIA obtained the services of three nationally known librarian consultants to evaluate its ten-year old documentation system and to recommend measures for improving it as a basic intelligence capability. Their findings have been critically evaluated and a number of specific programs designed to improve service are now in process of implementation. CIA also undertook on behalf of the IAC's Committee on Documentation a one-year project for major revision of the intelligence subject classification code, which code is also now used by SHAPE. This project has particular community significance because of the benefits that will derive if the many IAC automation projects underway can successfully apply a common codification to information storage and retrieval.

5. Specialized CIA Reference Support Services

Biographic and technical data concerning foreign participants were assembled from the Agency's biographic files for the U.S. Delegation to the Geneva discussions on detection of nuclear explosions. CIA began community dissemination of foreign intelligence information collected from U.S. officials in non-intelligence agencies. Data on the use of the radio spectrum throughout the world were systematically assembled and employed in support of intelligence programs. The Agency's industrial information files were supplemented in a carefully integrated program for the collection and organization

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of Europe and the Middle East were briefed on intelligence photographic requirements resulting in an immediate and substantial increase in the flow of such materials to the Agency. Extensive coverage of trade fairs and exhibits was arranged and specialists in this field travelled widely to brief field personnel on reporting techniques.

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